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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Michael A. Griffiths )  
SERIAL NO.: 09/938,922 ) ART UNIT  
FILED: August 24, 2001 ) 2643  
FOR: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR ) EXAMINER:  
PROVIDING USAGE PATTERN SERVICE ) Taylor  
FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS ) Barry W.  
CUSTOMERS )

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Sheila Smolick

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P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## COMMENTS ON REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

To the extent that the Reasons for Allowance suggest or state that certain limitations or combinations not found in the prior art are present in each and every claim whether or not specific language to that effect is found in every claim, the Applicant notes that the "record as a whole" must be considered as a supplement to the Examiner's stated Reasons for Allowance, and, to the extent that it is clear and complete, it shall control the interpretation of any and all claims.

More specifically, the Examiner's statement of reasons paraphrases the independent claims and suggests features as being required in the claims. Applicant reaffirms that the claim language as presented controls the scope of the claims, viewed in light of the record as a whole. To the extent that the Reasons for Allowance are contradictory to the express language of the claims, Applicant refutes such an interpretation of the claims.

00370 (BLL-0040)

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If there are any charges with respect to this response or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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